

**To:** Poy, Thomas[poy.thomas@epa.gov]  
**From:** Crooks, Jennifer  
**Sent:** Wed 9/17/2014 8:03:18 PM  
**Subject:** TTHM Violation on the horizon for Flint

Tom—See the email string below—Mike Prysby at MDEQ worked with 2 people at City of Flint, to identify the problem and get the lines flushed. I talked with the citizen this afternoon, and sent an email with my response—I cc'd you.

But, of course, this isn't going away anytime soon. I talked with Mike Prysby at length about the future of these drinking water problems at Flint. He said the next problem that will rear it's ugly head, is the HI TTHM problem that is now surfacing. Mike just sent off a compliance letter to Flint this week about the high TTHMs. Seems that the plant is able to get the TOC levels down to an acceptable level, but due to the fair amount of precursor/organic loading from the Flint River, including the farm runoff from the entire watershed, they're still seeing high TTHM levels. Of course, the corrective action is to connect with Lake Huron water in 2016—which is 16 months away. But in the short term, Mike said—"Bottom line, can these people drink the water now?"

Nick suggested a 1431 to force Flint to start using Detroit water again, but I think the 1431 is only for imminent and substantial endangerment of an underground source of drinking water.

Jennifer

**From:** Prysby, Mike (DEQ) [mailto:PRYSBYM@michigan.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:04 PM  
**To:** Crooks, Jennifer  
**Subject:** RE: FW: FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

Jennifer...what is ur contact number....I wish to call you

Michael Prysby, P.E.

District Engineer

Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance

517 290-8817

**From:** Crooks, Jennifer [mailto:crooks.jennifer@epa.gov]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 1:22 PM

**To:** Prysby, Mike (DEQ)

**Subject:** RE: FW: FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

Again, many thanks to you, Mike, and the team at Flint WTP. I will call [Citizen name / Ex. 6] today. Sounds like she never contacted the Water Service Center. What is their phone number, so I can pass it on to her? Brent said that Mike Glasgow did a bacti and Chlorine at the other house on [redacted] she may want to call for a bacti and chlorine too.

Mike—what is the “COF”? (Robert’s email below) How do the demolition contractors use the hydrants incorrectly, thus causing high iron?

Jen

**From:** Prysby, Mike (DEQ) [mailto:PRYSBYM@michigan.gov]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:02 PM

**To:** Crooks, Jennifer

**Cc:** Busch, Stephen (DEQ)

**Subject:** FW: FW: FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

Jennifer,

I received the response from the Flint WTP staff....nothing from that

person; however, a complaint from another resident on that street. Robert Bincsik just informed me that he is sending out a crew to flush several hydrants on that street to help alleviate the iron in the water.

Michael Prysby, P.E.

District Engineer

Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance

517 290-8817

**From:** Brent Wright [mailto:[bwright@cityofflint.com](mailto:bwright@cityofflint.com)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:56 PM

**To:** Prysby, Mike (DEQ)

**Subject:** Re: FW: FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

No one here has spoke with this person, but Mike Glasgow did go to a [Citizen name / Ex. 6] house yesterday on [Personal Address / Ex. 6] and sampled her water for chlorine and bacti. Her complaint was cloudy water.

On Wed, Sep 17, 2014 at 12:36 PM, Prysby, Mike (DEQ) <[PRYSBYM@michigan.gov](mailto:PRYSBYM@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Jennifer,

Below is the response from Water Service Center (WSC). The location was not in the BWA area; however, as Robert indicates, this person did not contact the WSC. Let's hold-off on calling her until I hear whether the Flint WTP staff has had any involvement with this complaint. Robert also indicate local contractors using hydrants improperly as a potential cause.

Michael Prysby, P.E.

District Engineer

Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance

517 290-8817

**From:** Robert Bincsik [mailto:[rbincsik@cityofflint.com](mailto:rbincsik@cityofflint.com)]

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 12:13 PM

**To:** Prysby, Mike (DEQ)

**Cc:** [bwright@cityofflint.com](mailto:bwright@cityofflint.com)

**Subject:** Re: FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

To my knowledge we never received a complaint from this address. This would've been south of the effected area and wouldn't have been in the boil water notice. I will have someone go out and flush the hydrants near this address but obviously I have to be made aware of the problem first in order to be able to fix it. I'm quite certain its iron she is seeing in her water and this has been a problem this year in the COF given all the demolition contractors using hydrants improperly.

On Wed, Sep 17, 2014 at 11:13 AM, Prysby, Mike (DEQ) <[PRYSBYM@michigan.gov](mailto:PRYSBYM@michigan.gov)> wrote:

Brent, Robert,

As part of my follow-up to EPA on this latest complaint, provide a summary of action taken and/or communication by the city to address Citizen name / Ex. 6

Citizen name / Ex. 6 concerns?

Michael Prysby, P.E.

District Engineer

Office of Drinking Water and Municipal Assistance

517 290-8817

**From:** Crooks, Jennifer [mailto:[crooks.jennifer@epa.gov](mailto:crooks.jennifer@epa.gov)]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 17, 2014 11:04 AM  
**To:** Busch, Stephen (DEQ); Prysby, Mike (DEQ)  
**Cc:** Benzie, Richard (DEQ)  
**Subject:** FW: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

Hi, Steve and Mike. Yep, have another Flint complaint. See below. Her water at the tap is brown as of this past Sunday. I thought Flint was flushing in the areas where the valves were closed? Not sure if this woman's address is close to that area. Have there been other complaints of brown water?

I plan to call her this morning and explain the valve issue. Could you also look into her complaint?

Jennifer

**From:** Poy, Thomas  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 16, 2014 5:20 PM  
**To:** Crooks, Jennifer  
**Subject:** Fwd: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

Jen: Can you please provide a response to this person? Inform her of the valve issue and that the water flow should improve. Was Flint flushing too?

T

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Tom Poy

Chief, Ground and Drinking Water Branch

USEPA - Region 5

(312) 886-5991

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** <[howard.donna@epa.gov](mailto:howard.donna@epa.gov)>  
**Date:** September 16, 2014 at 3:01:05 PM CDT  
**To:** <[poy.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:poy.thomas@epa.gov)>  
**Subject:** FWD: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan

09/16/2014

SUBJECT: FWD: (SDWA - FY14-121728-3715-CV) Referred to Region - Michigan  
FROM: [howard.donna@epa.gov](mailto:howard.donna@epa.gov)  
TO: [poy.thomas@epa.gov](mailto:poy.thomas@epa.gov)  
CC:

-----Original Message-----

9/14/2014 4:15 PM

HQ LEAD NUMBER: FY14-121728-3715-CV

SUBJECT: Referred to Region - Michigan

FROM: **Personal Email / Ex. 6**

TO:

Name: **Citizen name / Ex. 6**

Address: **Personal Address / Ex. 6**

City:

State: **Personal Address / Ex. 6**

Zip:

Phone: **Personal Phone / Ex. 6**

Alleged Violator's Name: City of Flint, Water Dept.

Alleged Violator's Address: 1001 S. Saginaw St.

Alleged Violator's City: Flint

Alleged Violator's State: Michigan

Alleged Violator's Zip: 48502

Tip or Complaint: My Flint City tap water is brown. It cannot possibly be safe to drink. No person is available to discuss this issue with me, even after already having three boil water advisories in less than two months time. There has been no announcement made of this current issue, nor has there been any advisory to not drink the water. This has not been addressed or even acknowledged by the city. My neighbor has been having the same issue, and she has also not received any answers, acknowledgement, or regard for her lack of safe drinking water. I have bottled some of the tap water and plan on contacting the local college to request an analyses. I will provide a photo at your request. It is disgusting and they are not even informing the citizens that it is happening.

Specific Directions: **Personal Address / Ex. 6**

Violation Still Occurring? Yes

State DEP/DEQ/DEM Notified? Yes

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*Thank you,*

*Robert Bincsik*

*Water Distribution and*

*Sewer Maintenance Supervisor*

*City of Flint*

*3310 E. Court Street*

*Flint, MI 48506*

*Ph: 810.766.7202 ext. 3413*

*Fx: 810.743.5758*

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**Brent Wright**

**Water Plant Supervisor**

**City of Flint**

**4500 N. Dort Hwy.**

**Flint, MI. 48505**

**Ph: 810.787.6537 ext. 3510**

**Fx: 810.787.3710**